UNITED
NATIONS

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Economic and Social Council

Distr.
LIMITED

E/1996/L.41
23 July 1996

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Substantive session of 1996
New York, 24 June-26 July 1996
Agenda item 7

REGIONAL COOPERATION IN THE ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND RELATED FIELDS

Costa Rica*: draft resolution

Regional cooperation in the economic and social and related fields

The Economic and Social Council,

Noting with appreciation that the summaries of the economic surveys of the five regional commissions have been made available to the Council,

1. Takes note of the following reports:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on regional cooperation in the economic, social and related fields (E/1996/45 and Add.1);

(b) Summary of the economic survey of Europe, 1995 (E/1996/46);

(c) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Africa, 1995 (E/1996/47);

(d) Summary of the survey of economic and social conditions in Asia and the Pacific, 1996 (E/1996/48);

(e) Summary of the economic survey of Latin America and the Caribbean, 1995 (E/1996/49);

* On behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China.

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(f) Summary of economic and social developments in the ESCWA region, 1995 (E/1996/50);

2. Recognizes that the regional commissions provide an indispensable forum and mechanism for enabling, promoting and strengthening regional cooperation and development;

3. Also recognizes that the regional commissions are the regional arm of the United Nations in the economic and social fields, and are essential for facilitating the United Nations central role of promoting development and international cooperation;

4. Notes with appreciation the role played by the regional commissions in the preparation of regional plans and programmes of action for the recent major United Nations conferences and in their necessary follow-up activities;

5. Recognizes that the regional commissions have important contributions to make to the policy deliberations of the Council in its high-level and coordination segments, and that the regional perspectives of development should further enrich the Council's debate on economic and social development;

6. Decides, accordingly, on the need to allocate the agenda item on regional cooperation at the beginning of the general segment of the Council, and calls on the executive secretaries to participate in the high-level and coordination segments;

7. Further decides to institutionalize the arrangements for the informal briefings and dialogue between the executive secretaries and the delegations of the Council to be held under the chairmanship of the President of the Council.